

House File 2513 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 513)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to requirements for operation of a motor vehicle
2 in merging traffic and providing a penalty.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 5481HV 82
5 dea/rj/14

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 321.319A DRIVERS REQUIRED TO
1 2 MERGE.
1 3 Notwithstanding section 321.319, where traffic lanes are
1 4 provided for merging traffic, each driver of a vehicle on the
1 5 converging roadways or lanes shall adjust the speed and
1 6 lateral position of the vehicle as necessary to avoid a
1 7 collision with any other vehicle and to facilitate safe entry
1 8 of merging vehicles into the common lane. However, the driver
1 9 of a vehicle traveling on any traffic lane, ramp, or
1 10 converging roadway marked with a yield sign, stop sign, or
1 11 other traffic control sign or signal shall obey such sign or
1 12 signal.
1 13 A person convicted of a violation of this section is guilty
1 14 of a simple misdemeanor punishable as a scheduled violation
1 15 under section 805.8A, subsection 7, paragraph "b".
1 16 Sec. 2. Section 805.8A, subsection 7, paragraph b, Code
1 17 2007, is amended to read as follows:
1 18 b. For violations under sections 321.298, 321.307,
1 19 321.308, 321.313, 321.319, 321.319A, 321.320, 321.321,
1 20 321.327, 321.329, and 321.333, the scheduled fine is
1 21 thirty-five dollars.
1 22 Sec. 3. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION. The department of
1 23 transportation, in cooperation with the department of public
1 24 safety and other interested parties, shall develop and
1 25 implement a public awareness and education program to foster
1 26 compliance with the requirements for merging in traffic as
1 27 established in this Act. The department may incorporate the
1 28 education initiative into existing programs administered by
1 29 the department and coordinate efforts with other state or
1 30 local agencies to reach the widest population possible.
1 31 EXPLANATION
1 32 This bill describes the actions motorists must take when
1 33 driving in merging traffic. Drivers on traffic lanes, ramps,
1 34 or converging roadways are required to obey yield or stop
1 35 signs where provided. In the absence of such signage, each
2 1 driver of a vehicle on converging roadways or lanes shall
2 2 adjust the speed and lateral position of the vehicle as
2 3 necessary to avoid collisions and to facilitate safe merging
2 4 of vehicles. A violation is punishable by a scheduled fine of
2 5 \$35.
2 6 The bill requires the department of transportation, in
2 7 cooperation with the department of public safety and other
2 8 interested parties, to develop and implement a public
2 9 awareness and education program regarding the bill's
2 10 requirements.
2 11 LSB 5481HV 82
2 12 dea/rj/14